

Raritan River, NJ

Maintenance Dredging

FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 2004

DESCRIPTION: Future maintenance dredging of Raritan River, NJ.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1919 and subsequently modified by the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1930, 1937, 1940 and 1962. The existing Raritan River Federal navigation project of New Jersey includes the following channels:

- a. A main channel, 25 ft, deep, 300 ft. wide, from the turn in N.Y. and N.J. Channels, near great Beds Light to the Raritan Arsenal Wharf; thence 15 ft. deep, 200 ft. wide, to the Washington Canal; thence 10 ft. deep in soft material and 11 ft. deep in rock, and generally 100 ft. wide, with widening at bends, to the Delaware and Raritan canal entrance at New Brunswick. This channel is about 13.8 miles long.
- b. A turning basin opposite Raritan Arsenal Wharf, 25 ft. deep, 300 ft. wide, from its junction with the main channel opposite Keasby to the upper limit of the NL Industries property; 15 ft. deep 150 ft. wide to the Middlesex County sewerage Authority Dock; thence 10 ft. deep and 150 ft. wide to the junction with the Main Channel at Crab Island.

STATUS: The channel was last maintained in 2000, by dredging the east end of the channel in Raritan Bay (MI 0.0) to the Old Railroad Bridge between Perth Amboy and South Amboy, New Jersey (MI 2.2).

A condition survey was performed in July 2003. From this survey, areas of shoaling will be identified and the need to perform maintenance dredging will be determined. Funding in fiscal year 2004 will be utilized to perform sampling and testing of areas that may require dredging and to initiate Engineering and Design of this project, if warranted. The area of the channel in focus at this time is between miles 2.2 and 4.0. Sampling and testing of the sediment from this reach has been initiated in early February 2004 and we expect testing results by late July 2004.

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